



## Department of Public Safety Academy

The Department of Public Safety (DPS) conducts a 20-week academy on an as-needed basis, or approximately once a year. The classroom instruction is conducted at the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) and lodging is facilitated through Camp Dodge.

The DPS Academy trains Iowa State Patrol troopers, Special Agents in the Division of Criminal Investigation, the Division of Narcotics Enforcement, the Division of Intelligence, and the Fire Marshal's Office. Since 2012, the DPS and the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) have coordinated joint academy training at Camp Dodge. Prior to 2012, the DOT recruits attended the 14-week course at the ILEA. See the Fiscal Topic [Budget Unit: Iowa Law Enforcement Academy \(ILEA\)](#) for additional information regarding the ILEA.

### Funding

In 2012, the DPS Academy trained 16 recruits (six from the DPS and 10 from the DOT) at a total cost of \$76,000. This included lodging, meals, clothing, and supplies. The DPS does not pay rent for the ILEA facilities. Instead, an Iowa State Patrol Sergeant is temporarily assigned to the ILEA to serve as the lead use of force instructor providing training to all ILEA and DPS recruits. The DPS does pay rent to Camp Dodge for the use of the firing range and for the barracks. In order to be cost effective, approximately 10 recruits from the DPS and the DOT are required to hold an academy.

For the 2012 Academy, the DOT was billed \$45,000 (59.0%) of the cost and had 60.0% of the employees trained at the Academy. The cost billed is relative to the number of recruits attending the academy class.

The DPS does not budget for the costs of an academy, but rather each year, determines the vacancies occurring as a result of peace officer separations and retirements in each division. Based on those vacancies and the projected budget, candidates are selected to fill those vacancies and the respective divisions pay a portion of the academy costs from vacancy savings realized in those divisions placing candidates. The training expenses and salaries of the DOT candidates are paid through the Motor Vehicle enforcement (MVE) Division operating budget that consists of 86.0% Road Use Tax Fund dollars and 14.0% Primary Road Fund dollars.

The DPS peace officer candidates receive pay while in the DPS Academy and do not become sworn peace officers until after graduation. All DPS recruits receive a base wage of \$1,311.20 per pay period (bi-weekly) and are assigned to one of the five divisions within the DPS prior to the Academy.

Based on the Academy experience from FY 2012, the DPS academy graduates are assigned to Post 16, Capitol Security (Trooper 1) at a base wage of \$1,497.60 bi-weekly. Occasionally, in the past, candidates have been assigned as a road trooper position (Trooper 2) in which case that candidate would receive a base wage of \$1,831.20 bi-weekly.

The DOT MVE recruits are sworn in upon entering the Academy and receive a base wage of \$1,569.60 per pay period (bi-weekly). The pay for the DOT recruits remains the same upon graduation.

### Related Statute

Iowa Code chapter [80](#)

### More Information

Iowa Department of Public Safety: <http://www.dps.state.ia.us/>

Iowa Department of Transportation: <http://www.iowadot.gov/index.html#/services>

Iowa Law Enforcement Academy:  
<http://www.ileatraining.org/default.aspx/MenuItemID/107/MenuGroup/Home.htm?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>

LSA Staff Contact: Jennifer Acton (515-281-7846) [jennifer.acton@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:jennifer.acton@legis.iowa.gov)